

7 Ordnance Center Workers Get Awards

Seven civilian employees of the Ordnance Ammunition Center, two of them women, were awarded "Certificates of Outstanding Service" at a ceremony held this morning at the Center near Joliet Arsenal.

Brig. Gen. Joel G. Holmes, commanding general, who directs the activities of the Center and its 27 ordnance installations thruout the country, presented the awards in his office.

The seven were Edward J. Cottrell, James N. Pearre, Joseph B. Lee, Albert E. Frosch, Henry L. Dean, Mrs. Celia A. Kretz, and Miss Phyllis F. Reay. All are residents of the Joliet area. Miss Reay lives in Braceville.

THEY ARE the first OAC personnel out of almost 600 civilians at the Center to earn those certificates since the army last December adopted its new system of rating its employees. The new system compares each employee's performance with the requirements of his job, whereas under the earlier system his work record was compared with those of his fellow-workers.

For an employee to receive an "outstanding service" rating now, his superiors must prove to a special rating committee that the employee's performance in all aspects of his work greatly exceeds normal performance, and that it achieved positive, constructive result.

Edward J. Cottrell, civilian chief of the OAC's inspection division, has been in the employ of the Ordnance Corps for 37 years, starting in 1914 as a machine operator at Frankford Arsenal, in Philadelphia. After serving in various capacities at different installations, including four years in the Philippines, he came to Joliet in 1945 as assistant chief of inspection in the Office of the Field Director of Ammunition Plants, which became the Ordnance Ammunition Center in November, 1950. He now directs a staff of about 100 people in the inspection of all ordnance ammunition procured and produced by OAC.

A NATIVE of Tennessee, Mr. Cottrell lives at Joliet Arsenal with his wife, the former Harriet W. Lutz, of Philadelphia.

James N. Pearre, civilian chief of the Manufacturing Division of OAC, directs the activities of all ordnance ammunition manufacturing plants under OAC control. A veteran of 33 years of Ordnance Corps service, Mr. Pearre was born in Thomson, Ga., and started working at the Augusta (Ga.) Arsenal in 1918. After various assignments, he took over his present duties last December.

Joseph B. Lee, a graduate of Holy Cross college and Northwestern university, and a member of the Illinois State Bar association became chief of OAC's legal division when it was established in 1950. From 1946 till that time, however, he had actually directed the legal phase of the installation's activities. As chief of this division, he now heads a staff of seven attorneys, and is responsible for all legal work connected with the operations of OAC's 27 plants, and its contract relations with dozens of supplier firms.

Albert E. Frosch, a native of Pittsburgh, came to Joliet in 1940 as chief engineer for Sanderson Porter, Inc., on the construction of the Elwood unit of the Joliet Arsenal. When operations started, he continued in the same capacity and served for the duration of World War II. After a year as project manager on another Sanderson Porter job in Virginia, Mr. Frosch returned to Joliet and became associated with OFDAP in 1947, advancing in 1950 to his present position as assistant to the chief of OAC's Comptroller Division and special assistant to Gen.

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Holmes. As such, he handles financial matters and special assignment, particularly of an engineering nature.

A Cornell graduate in civil engineering, Mr. Frosch resides at 410 North Raynor avenue, with his wife, the former Betty Kendrick of Pittsburgh.

HENRY L. DEAN, comptroller of the Ordnance Ammunition Center since last April, is a native of South Bend, Ind., and a graduate of the school of business administration, University of Illinois. After nine years in the banking and automobile financing fields, he entered Ordnance Corps service in 1942 as field auditor at the Wabash River Ordnance Works at Newport, Ind. In 1946 he came to Joliet as fiscal officer of the Office of Field Director of Ammunition Plants, and when OFDAP became the Ordnance Ammunition Center in 1950 he continued in that capacity for OAC.

As OAC Comptroller, Mr. Dean directs the financial activities, including budgeting, funding and accounting, for the OAC center here and for its 27 field installations. He and his wife, the former Margaret Pfafman of South Bend, live at Joliet Arsenal with their three children.

Mrs. Celia A. Kretz, secretary to Gen. Holmes since 1948, started to work for Sanderson Porter on the construction of the Elwood unit in 1942, and continued in operations for S-P until 1946, when she became connected with OFDAP as a stenographer.

A NATIVE of Aurora, Mrs. Kretz has lived in Joliet most of her life, and now resides at 1104 North Raynor avenue with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Franck, and her daughter, Jeanne Kretz. A brother, Edward Franck, is Joliet's police and fire commissioner.

Phyllis F. Reay, secretary to Col. J. H. Simpson and to the Comptroller Division of OAC, graduated from Gardner-South Wilmington Township High school in 1946 and immediately started to work as a clerk-stenographer in the Operations Division of OFDAP. In 1947 she transferred to the Safety Division, and in December 1950 came into the Comptroller's Division of OAC.

She resides in Braceville with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew A. Reay.